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MAR 18 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Operations
SUBJECT: Visit to the United States of General GEHLEN

1. On several occasions in the past Col. Critchfield has suggested that General GEHLEN visit Washington either just before, or shortly after, the legalization of ZIPPER. In addition to further strengthening our position in general with the German Intelligence Service such a visit would present an opportune moment for the DCI to review the contents of our secret Bilateral Agreement with GEHLEN. Col. Critchfield has now brought up the matter again in the form of a specific proposal and urged that preparations be made to follow through at the appropriate time.

2. It is requested that approval in principle be granted for this proposal at this time. If this approval is granted we will notify Col. Critchfield that we are in general agreement with the proposal and consider the most appropriate time to be shortly after legalization. We will also request that any firm plans be cleared with us well in advance.

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